

CLAIMS

I claim:

Sys
8/1
1. A hand held gardening implement, comprising
a frame member having a longitudinal dimension, a
proximal end, and a distal end;
a working element attached to said frame member at said
proximal end of said frame member, said working element
projecting downwardly and vertically from said frame member;
a brace attached to said frame member at said distal
end of said frame member; and
a handle attached to said frame member intermediate
said working element and said brace, said handle projecting
upwardly and vertically from said frame member.

2. The gardening implement according to claim 1, said
working element including a plurality of tines, whereby said
gardening implement is a rake.

Sys
8/1
3. The gardening implement according to claim 1, said
brace further comprising an elastic cushion for deforming to
distribute force developed by the hand and arm of the user
over an increased area of the forearm of the user.

4. The gardening implement according to claim 1, said
handle further comprising a molded grip for conforming to
the configuration of the human hand.

~~5. The gardening implement according to claim 1, said
frame member comprising rod stock bent to form said working
element, said brace, and said handle in sequential fashion
from a unitary component.~~

09073643.050698

6. A hand held gardening implement, comprising
a frame member having a longitudinal dimension, a
proximal end, and a distal end;

a plurality of tines attached to said frame member at
said proximal end of said frame member, said plurality of
tines projecting downwardly and vertically from said frame
member;

a brace attached to said frame member at said distal
end of said frame member, said brace further comprising an
elastic cushion for deforming to distribute force developed
by the hand and arm of the user over an increased area of
the forearm of the user; and

a handle attached to said frame member intermediate
said working element and said brace, said handle projecting
upwardly and vertically from said frame member, said handle
further comprising a molded grip for conforming to the
configuration of the human hand, said frame member
comprising rod stock bent to form said working element, said
brace, and said handle from a unitary, homogeneous
component.

add
B3/